Attorney Docket No.

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MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

United States Patent Application

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

below) of the subject matter which is		sought on the invention		oventor (if plural inventors are name
The specification of which a. is attached hereto b. was filed on of a PCT-filed application) described (if any), which I have reviewed and for	as application serial no. and daimed in international no. r which I solidt a United States pa	and was am filed Ient.	nended on	(if applicable) (in the cas and as amended on
I hereby state that I have reviewed at amendment referred to above.	nd understand the contents of the	above-identified specifi	cation, includi	ng the claims, as amended by any
I hereby claim foreign priority benefit listed below and have also identified application on the basis of which prior a. no such applications have been to such applications have been to be a such applications.	below any foreign application for p rity is claimed: en filed.	de, § 119/365 of any for atent or inventor's certi	reign applicati ficate having	on(s) for patent or inventor's certifica a filing date before that of the
FOREIG	ON APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, CL	AIMING PRIORITY UN	IDER 35 USC	§ 119
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	<u> </u>	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)
Japan	2001-016394	24/01/2001		
ALL FOREIG	N APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, FIL	ED BEFORE THE PRI	ORITY APPL	CATION(S)
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)		DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)
I hereby claim the benefit under Title and, insofar as the subject matter of provided by the first paragraph of Titl 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1 filing date of this application.	each of the claims of this applications e 35, United States Code, § 112, I	on is not disclosed in the acknowledge the duty	e prior United to disclose m	States application in the manner aterial information as defined in Title
U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (da	y, month, year)	STATUS (patented, pending, abandoned)
I hereby claim the benefit under Title	35, United States Code § 119(e) o	of any United States pro	ovisional appli	cation(s) listed below:
U.S. PROVISIONAL A	DA1	DATE OF FILING (Day, Month, Year)		

or

Lacknowledge the duty to disclose information that is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 (reprinted below):

§ 1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

- (a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent we be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:
 - (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- the closest information over which individuals associated with the filling or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.
- (b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and
 - (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima face case of unpatentability of a claim;
 - (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
 - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
 - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

- (c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:
 - (1) Each inventor named in the application:
 - (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.
- (d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.
- (e) In any continuation-in-part application, the duty under this section includes the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to the person to be material to patentability, as defined in paragraph (b) of this section, which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or patent agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith:

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I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attomey/firm/ organization who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Merchant & Gould P.C. to the contrary.

I understand that the execution of this document, and the grant of a power of attorney, does not in itself establish an attorney-client relationship between the undersigned and the law firm Merchant & Gould P.C., or any of its attorneys.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false state may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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